

TIP OF THE

Dec. 17, 2004

SWORD

Incirlik Air Base, Turkey



Celebrating the season

TIP OF THE SWORD

Volume 33 ♦ Number 48 ♦
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Photos by Airman Bradley Lail

(Above and Left) Incirlik Elementary School students serenaded the Incirlik community Monday with a concert of Christmas carols. The holidays can be a dangerous time of year for adults as well as children. See related story, Page 5.

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TIP OF THE SWORD BREAK

There is no *Tip of the Sword*
 Dec. 24 or 31. The next paper is
 Jan.4. For more information call
 Public Affairs at 6-6060.

On the cover:

Staff Sgt. Dustin Zudell, 39th
 Maintenance Squadron munitions
 training instructor (far left) and three
 others practice their high kicks for the
 "audition" for new cheerleaders for the
 New England Patriots during the
 Operation Season's Greetings
 performance Dec. 8. See related
 photos, Page6

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Air Force leaders send out a holiday message

WASHINGTON — The following is a holiday message from Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper:

“In this special holiday season we offer our sincere best wishes to our Air Force family — our Total Force of active duty, guard, reserve and civilians, as well as your families who support your remarkable commitment to protect freedom and defend the United States.

“You are the most important part of the world’s greatest air and space force — the heart and soul of our combat capability, and the bedrock of what makes this nation great.

“For those deployed, please know that you and your families are in our thoughts and prayers, and that we are enormously proud of the work you’re doing. In Afghanistan and Iraq, you continue to fight terrorism while helping courageous people find the path to stability and self-governance. For those of you who serve in the United States, you defend our republic to keep Americans safe.

“At home and abroad, you give our nation priceless gifts through your service — our cherished freedoms and the opportunity to live in peace.

“This is an extraordinary time to be an American and to serve in America’s Air Force. We thank each of you and your families for your incomparable commitment. Wherever you may be this season, we encourage you to pause and reflect on your faith, your family, and your friends.

“We’re honored to serve with you. We wish each of you a happy holiday season and blessings for a prosperous new year!” (Courtesy Air Force Print News Service)

Foglesong: ‘enjoy season’

Gen. Robert H. “Doc” Foglesong
Commander, U.S. Air Forces in Europe



RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany

— You worked hard over the past year, selflessly dedicating yourself to the mission, not only in Europe, but throughout the world. Be sure to take time over the holidays to enjoy the season and camaraderie of family and friends.

As the holidays approach, pause and reflect on your accomplishments as well as the sacrifices, you and your family have made. I’m proud of your superb courage and selflessness which never cease to amaze me. Your hard work is making an enormous difference around the world as we build a better future for all. Without dedicated folks like you, we would not be the world’s most respected and feared Air Force.

As you celebrate the holidays, don’t lose focus on your fellow Wingmen who may be spending the season away from their loved ones. Reach out and include them in your holiday activities. Remember, whether deployed or at home station, you’re an important part of our USAFE family.

Thanks for all you do!

Mary and I wish you and your family a safe and happy holiday season.

Sharing the Wealth

Members of the Turkish Air Force load furniture and supplies donated by Incirlik people and agencies onto a truck.

The supplies were gathered from all over the base and donated to local schools. The schools received desks, cabinets, chairs and other supplies from Incirlik.

While this particular opportunity to help the local community has passed, there are several opportunities still available. For more opportunities to donate to or help the local Turkish community people can call the chapel at 6-6441.



Photo by Airman Bradley Lail

'Man of 200 voices'

Rich Little performs for more than 200 during 2004 USO tour

By 1st Lt. S.J.B. Bryant
39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Comedian and impersonator Rich Little performed Monday at the Club Complex as part of the United Service Organization and Armed Forces Entertainment 2004 Holiday Tour.

More than 200 people filled the ballroom to hear the comic imitate the voices of movie stars and U.S. presidents after Incirlik contestants took the stage in an amateur comedy contest.

"It's no big deal to be an impersonator," Mr. Little said as he began the one-hour show. "Everyone can do at least one or two impersonations. If you stick your hand into the pocket of the person sitting next to you they call you a politician ... or a pervert."

Mr. Little, who got his start on the Judy Garland Show in 1963, portrayed at least 30 different personalities throughout the night to include old "favorites" like Bob Hope, George Burns, John Wayne, Kurt Douglas and Jimmy Stewart.

"I was worried that some of these soldiers didn't even know who I was," said the Canadian-born comedian during an interview before the show. "But I bet their parents have heard of me. I've actually signed more autographs for parents of the troops so the real concern was that I was going to impersonate people these 20 to 24 year olds don't know. But I've chosen some well-known characters for tonight's show. Some that most of them can identify with."

Staying "in-tune with his audience is very important, admitted Mr. Little. That is why he added more "up-to-date" characters to his repertoire such as Sylvester Stallone, current President George Bush,



Rich Little, comedian and impersonator, has wandered the world for more than 20 years entertaining troops and civilians alike with his impersonations of other famous people. He has added several contemporary figures to his act so young crowds can appreciate his work as much as their parents did.

Dr. Phil and Arnold Schwarzenegger.

It was not all work for Mr. Little, as he, his wife Marie and his tour manager were treated to a tour of the base to visit the troops. They also got to talk to children at the Incirlik school.

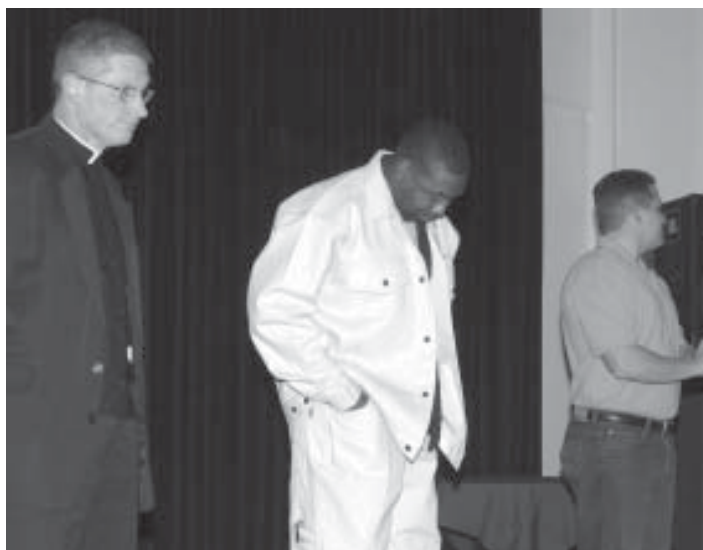
"They didn't know who I was," said Mr. Little, who admits he likes working with children which explains his stint on the Muppet Show. "But they laughed anyway. They just called me the man that 'talks funny.'"

Incirlik is Mr. Little's third stop on his USO/AFE tour. He performed at Aviano and Ghedi, Italy, Dec. 8 through 12. And while, he admitted this one-week tour was just to "test the waters and see if they like me," the standing ovation he received at the end of the show might indicate the troops desire to see more of him in the future. This is the first time he has performed for military men and women overseas since he shared the stage with Bob Hope in Korea more than 20 years ago.

"I'm honored to be here tonight," said Mr. Little in his best Ronald Reagan voice. "Like so many Americans, we have so much respect for the service men and women. Everybody back home is very appreciative of what these people are doing here, their great sacrifices – especially leaving friends and family for the holidays."

The Little's did not forget their hosts from Turkey as they donated more than 200 toys to the base chapel for distribution at a local orphanage.

"We wanted to spread the holiday cheer to not only our American soldiers but to those less fortunate as well," said Marie Little. "We just thought that after we make the American servicemen smile, we could make the holidays a little brighter for others too."



Photos by Senior Airman Dallas Edwards

Before the show, three of Incirlik's own comedians, (left to right) Chaplain (Lt. Col.) David Reeson, 39th Air Base Wing chaplain, Tech. Sgt. Herbert Johnson, 39th Medical Squadron NCO in charge of diagnostic imaging, and 1st Lt. Michael Meek, 39th Services Squadron officer in charge of readiness, competed in an Apollo Night comedy contest. The 1st place winner was Chaplain Reeson.

Holiday time is safety time

On the third day of Christmas my true love gave to me, three fire alarms, two safety briefings and a fire retardant Christmas tree ...

By Senior Airman Jessica Switzer
39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Christmas is usually a time of cheer and good will to our fellow man, it is also a time of unique dangers to life and limb.

Ali Ozyesil, 39th Civil Engineer Squadron senior fire prevention inspector, offered a few tips for the Incirlik community to reduce the risk for fires during the holiday season and throughout the year.

"Incirlik families should make and practice a home fire escape plan with the entire family," he said. "Identify primary and alternate escape routes and practice the drill."

Other things he recommended were for families to install and maintain smoke detectors with at least one battery operated device on each level of the house, check the house regularly for fire hazards and learn how to use the fire extinguishers in the house. Fire extinguisher training is held every Thursday at the fire station.

These steps can prevent one of the thousands of house fires that occur each year from starting in your home. For more information about fire prevention, call the fire department at 6-6974.

There are other holiday hazards in homes and all over the local area. The American Red Cross also has several tips to keep the holidays safe as well as fun such as:



Photo by Dale Eckroth

There are many parties during the holiday season. Remember that a person can be impaired by even one drink. If you drink, don't drive; if you drive, don't drink.

- ♦ Beware of holiday lighting. Be careful when burning candles. Keep them away from decorations and other combustible materials. Don't leave children with candles unsupervised.

- ♦ Decorate with flame-retardant of noncombustible materials. Avoid using candles during parties. If guests are smoking provide them with large deep ashtrays and check them frequently. After a party, check inside and under upholstery and in trash cans for cigarette butts that may be smoldering.

- ♦ Keep Christmas trees fresh. Choose a fresh tree and secure it in a sturdy stand. Place the tree away from heat sources and exits, and water it daily. If you purchase an artificial tree, be sure it is labeled, as flame retardant.

- ♦ Designate a driver. When attending a party, always designate a non-drinking driver. If you are the host of a holiday gathering, be sure there are nonalcoholic beverages available.

- ♦ Buckle up. During the holiday months people travel more than ever. Wearing a seatbelt is the easiest and best way to prevent injury in a motor vehicle collision. Make sure all passengers are also wearing safety belts.

The National Safety Council Web site recommends suggests being careful about choosing gifts for small children. Any parts of a gift should be too large to get lodged in a child's nose, throat or ears. When giving gifts to a family with several children, be aware that often younger children will want to play with their older sibling's toys.

Plants can also offer a special threat to young children and pets during the holiday season. Many plants can cause severe stomach problems. Plants to watch out for include, but are not limited to: mistletoe, holly berries, Jerusalem cherry and amaryllis. Keep these out of reach of children and pets.

The holiday season can also be one of the most stressful times of the year. Gen. Robert Foglesong, U.S. Air Forces in Europe commander, recently came out with a holiday safety message reminding everyone to look around and asses what is really important.

He reminds all Airmen to look out for one another as the holidays can tend to intensify feelings of loneliness that many Airmen feel when they are separated from their loved ones.

For more information, visit www.nsc.org/library/facts/holseasn.htm.



IN
BRIEF

Tip of the Sword survey

The *Tip of the Sword* is conducting a readership survey. To participate in the survey go to http://www.afnews.af.mil/internal/survey_index.htm. Readers submit a user name and then choose Incirlik from a list of bases. The survey consists of 34 multiple-choice questions and a comment section. For more information, call public affairs at 6-6060.

Road closure

There is a partial road closure on 7th Street between "B" Street and "D" Street until Jan. 3. In this section only northbound traffic may pass. The buildings directly affected are: 925, 926, 934 and 936. For more information, call Paul Swinney, 39th Civil Engineer Squadron chief of construction management, at 6-8020.

CPO closed

The civilian personnel office closes at noon today for an official function. For more information, call Joe Green, chief of affirmative employment and employee relations, at 6-6416.

JA closure

The 39th Air Base Wing Office of the Staff Judge Advocate closes at noon today for an official function. For emergencies, call the command post at 6-9920.

WICO hours

The Women, Infants and Children Overseas office is closed Monday to Dec. 27. It is open 8 a.m. to noon Dec. 28 to 30. After Jan. 4th the office will return to its regular hours. For more information, call 6-1237.

Finance closed

Finance closes at noon Dec. 22 for an official function. For more information, call 6-6607.

Transaction fee

U.S. Air Forces in Europe headquarters has approved SATO travel to begin charging a reimbursable transaction fee of \$15 per ticket purchased to all official and unofficial travel. For more information call Staff Sgt. Ruben Villarreal, 39th Logistics Readiness Squadron NCO in charge of passenger travel, at 6-6520.

Operation Season's Greetings

Operation Season's Greetings arrived Dec. 7 to visit with Incirlik servicemembers.

The New England Patriots Cheerleaders and Emcee Mary Therese visited with Incirlik High School students. The cheerleaders and the band Blues Traveler had dinner that night with a number of Airmen.

The show kicked off Dec. 7 and even a few of Incirlik's own got to "audition" to be cheerleaders.



Photo by Senior Airman Dallas Edwards



Photo by Airman Bradley Lail

Airman 1st Class Anthony Schumaker, 39th Communications Squadron information assurance technician, stops to get CD's signed Dec. 7 at the Sultan's Inn Dining Facility.



Photo by Airman Bradley Lail



Photo by Senior Airman Dallas Edwards

(Top) Several members of the Incirlik community were dressed up and taught a cheer in an "audition" to be a New England Patriot cheer leader. **(Above)** John Popper, lead singer for Blues Traveler performed for Incirlik Airmen Dec. 8. **(Left)** Mary Therese visited with Incirlik High School students Dec. 7.

Incirlik bowlers take USAFE tournament

By Master Sgt. Doug Kingery

U.S. Air Forces in Europe
sports representative

Several people from Incirlik participated in the 2004/2005 U.S. Air Forces in Europe Bowling Tournament at the Vogelweh Bowling Center, Ramstein, Dec. 7 to 9.

The tournament consisted of individuals bowling 18 games per person in three days.

The first day was a team competition with four bowlers per team. The top three teams received awards. The second day was a doubles tournament. And the third day was an individual competition. The top threeteams or people, depending on the day's competition, also won awards.

All US Air Force, Army, Navy or Marine ID card holders assigned to USAFE or USAREUR to include active-duty, civilians, and family members, 18 years of age or older, were eligible to compete in this sanctioned tournament. This was a scratch tournament with no handicapping allowed.

The awards ceremony was conducted Dec. 9 at the Vogelweh Bowling Center.

The top Air Force active-duty male and female bowler who has the highest total pin fall in 18 games receives an invitation to compete in the Air Force Bowling Championships to be held in Dallas, Texas early next year.

Day One results: TEAMS competition

1st Place: Incirlik Team #1 (4,801 to-

tal pins) Team members: **John Price, Eddie Freitas, Rob Christeson, Jesse West**

2nd Place: Aviano Team #1

3rd Place: Ramstein Team #1

Day Two results: Doubles competition

1st Place: Ramstein Team #4

2nd Place: Aviano Team #1

3rd Place: Incirlik Team #1 (2,252 total

pins) Team members: **Rob Christeson and Jesse West**

Day Three results:

Men's singles competition

1st Place: Eddie Freitas, Incirlik,
(1408 total pins)

2nd Place: John Schafer, Spangdahlem,

3rd Place: Bob Zehnder, Ramstein

Women's singles competition

1st Place: Gabrielle Maggie, Ramstein

2nd Place: Kenda Smith, Sembach

3rd Place: Zorka Perez, Sembach

Overall individual awards during the 3-day tournament: **(18 games)**

Men's High Game: Vernon Kwiatkowski, Ramstein

Women's High Game: Gabrielle Maggie, Ramstein

Men's High Series: **Eddie Freitas, Incirlik**

Women's High Series: Gabrielle Maggie, Ramstein

High Average Men: **Eddie Freitas, Incirlik, 217.50**

High Average Women: Gabrielle Maggie, Ramstein, 182.17



Jingle Bell run/walk – The fitness center sponsors a 5K run walk 8 a.m. Saturday at Arkadas Park. Each male and female winner in the three age categories, 18 to 29, 30 to 39, and over 40 win a ham. All participants receive a t-shirt and jingle bells. For more information, call 6-6086.

Bowling center family hours – The Magic Carpet Bowling Center family hours are Sundays from 1 to 7 p.m. Two hours of bowling is \$12 including shoe rental. Bowlers also receive \$1 off a family size pizza. For more information, call 6-3260

Intramural basketball – The fitness center sponsors intramural basketball games 6:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m., and 8:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays at the fitness center gymnasium. For more information, call 6-6086.

Fitness classes – The fitness center offers a number of fitness classes throughout the week. There are classes for aerobic fitness, self defense, fitness improvement program and cycling. For more information, call 6-6086.

Skeet and trap shooting – Outdoor recreation offers skeet and trap shooting Tuesdays through Fridays by appointment. Open shooting begins Saturdays at 9 a.m. Cost is \$10, with shells and clays. For more information, call 6-6044.

Massage therapy – The fitness center has two licenced massage therapists on staff. People can schedule appointments Mondays through Sundays between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. For more information, call 6-6086.

Bicycle maintenance – Outdoor recreation offers bicycle maintenance and repair from basic tune-up to parts replacement. For more information, call 6-6044.

Golf course – The Hodja Lakes Golf Course offers free green fee and club rental for birthdays from noon to dusk. Golf course hours are Mondays through Fridays 7:30 a.m. to dusk, and Saturdays, Sundays and holidays 6:30 a.m. to dusk. For more information call 6-3313.



Photo by Senior Airman Dallas Edwards

The Harlem Globetrotters played a demonstration game Saturday at the fitness center. During the demonstration there was an opportunity for Airman 1st Class Daniel McKittrick, Air Force News Detachment 7 radio broadcaster, to win \$1,000 by making a free throw shot. Airman McKittrick missed the shot and no one won the money.

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



By Col. Michael Gardiner, 39th Air Base Wing commander

Surety Assistance Visit

A U.S. Air Forces in Europe Staff Assistance Visit team visited Incirlik this week to help us get ready for the upcoming surety inspection. The SAV team's purpose is to give us a tough look, and to help us focus our preparation efforts between now and March. We've worked hard to get where we are, but there's much work ahead. Please pay close heed to the team's observations and recommendations. The Surety Inspection is an extraordinarily tough inspection ... we need everyone's best efforts to succeed.

Promotions

♦ **Promoted to master sergeant:** Yolanda Pouncil, 728th Air Mobility Squadron; **Daniel Tackelson**, 39th Maintenance Squadron.

♦ **Promoted to technical sergeant:** Joe Conley, 39th Medical Squadron; **Mark Manning**, 39th Communications Squadron; **Corey Miller**, 425th Air Base Squadron, Izmir; **Alaji White**, 728th AMS; **Russell Wood**, 39th Operations Squadron

♦ **Promoted to staff sergeant:** Wesley Wooden, 39th Security Forces Squadron; **Torrie Dashon Stack**, 425th ABS; **Steven Latham**, 39th CS; **Cristin Kelley**, 39th OS; **Robert Huston**, 39th Logistics Readiness Squadron; **Jeremy Herring**, 39th CS; **Jimmy Dale Ardis Jr.**, 39th MXS

♦ **Promoted to senior airman:** Daisy Acfalle, 39th SFS, **David Boyer**, 728th AMS, **Thyiatira Edwards**, 39th OS, **Joshua Gelinas**, 39th SFS, **Stephanie Hammer**, 39th Air Base Wing, **Jose La Placa Amigo**, 39th CS, **Priscilla Perdomo**, 39th ABW, **Jason Procaccino**, 39th SFS, **Alpha Sesay**, 39th MDS, **Tiawanna West**, 39th MDS

Commander's Action Line program

The Action Line program provides an avenue for the Incirlik community to voice their concerns, complaints and opinions to Col. Michael Gardiner, 39th Air Base Wing commander.

The program should only be used after you've tried resolving the issue through your chain of command.

Submit Action Lines by e-mailing action.line@incirlik.af.mil or calling the 39th Public Affairs Office at 6-6060.

Concerns will be edited to 300 words or less. Questions and responses may be printed in the *Tip of the Sword*.

♦ **Promoted to airman 1st class:** Charlie Bou, 39th SFS, Ashley Fears, 39th CS, Andrew Maganito, 39th CS, Jessica Sipe, 728th AMS

♦ **Promoted to airman:** Christina Tassiopoulos, 39th ABW

Reporting accidents

Accidents are a fact of life, but too many people think it will never happen to them. If you are involved in an accident outside the gate, do not move your vehicle and immediately call the 39th Security Forces Squadron Law Enforcement Desk at 6-3200. They have translators who can speak to on-scene response personnel and can help you get through an accident without violating Turkish laws. Here are a few other emergency numbers to remember: Dial 154 to report traffic accidents, 155 to call Turkish National Police and 156 to call Jandarma. Please program these into your cell phone today if they are not already – especially if you are planning to travel over the holidays.

Seatbelt use

Some Incirlik people are not wearing their seatbelts while riding in taxis. The U.S. Air Forces in Europe supplement to Air Force Instruction 91-207 states all "Air Force military personnel, Department of the Air Force and Nonappropriated Funds civilians and their dependents, operating or riding as a passenger in a vehicle, must use installed occupant restraints whenever the vehicle is in motion."

This means everyone in any moving vehicle, including taxis, must use seatbelts; if they are not available and in working order request a different taxi.

Holiday Wishes

It is a time of year for all of us to count our blessings. Whether you are spending the holidays with your family, or working a night shift thousands of miles from loved ones, we should count ourselves lucky to be citizens of a free and prosperous nation, and a part of the greatest Air Force the world has ever known. Every day, members of our armed forces are putting their lives on the line to help bring that same freedom and prosperity to millions of others around the world. Take some time to reflect over the holidays, and be proud of the contributions you make to that noble effort. You are a part of a great team – take the time to thank your teammates for all their support. Have a safe and joyous holiday season!



Photo by Senior Airman Dallas Edwards

Staff Sgt. Brian May, 39th Air Base Wing Office of the Staff Judge Advocate NCO in charge of international law, receives a coin from Maj. Gen. Peter Sutton, Office of Defense Cooperation in Ankara, during the general's visit here Dec. 10.



Ask MEHMET

By Mehmet Birbiri, *Host Nation Adviser*

Holiday parties

Question: Mehmet, do the Turks celebrate Christmas?

Response: You might have already noticed that shops throughout Turkey decorate their windows with pine trees, snow balls, red stockings, and statues and pictures of St. Nicholas. Turks, who are Moslem, may seem like they are observing Christmas like the Christians; they are not celebrating Christmas, they are marking the New Year.

Many parties are held New Year's Eve. Night clubs, luxury hotels and restaurants have special programs and menus, and radio and television stations broadcast special programs which last until morning. Generally, television stations broadcast a program or film about St. Nicholas in the early hours of New Year's Eve for the children to make the children happy so they go to bed early and parents can party all night long.

Although many programs and parties are offered by restaurants and night clubs, many families prefer having their own parties at home. Often, several families will get together to celebrate. The wives show off their cooking skills by preparing richly set tables, and everyone spends the evening eating, drinking, watching television, listening to music and dancing.

Because of television, these parties are heavily influenced by the American Thanksgiving and Christmas celebrations, and turkey is becoming popular as the main dish. Some families, especially in big cities, have Christmas trees as well.

Gifts are exchanged for the New Year, and greeting cards are sent to friends and relatives.

Another New Year's tradition is to buy a lottery ticket. Although the National Lottery Administration holds three drawings a month with reasonable prizes, the top prize for the New Year challenges every body to get at least one ticket. Many people ask their friends in other cities to buy and send tickets to them. This year's top prize is 15 trillion TL that is approximately \$10 million, which is a big amount for a person in Turkey. In fact, it is a big amount for anybody in any country.

Noel Baba

St. Nicholas is called Noel Baba in Turkey. Better known as Santa Claus, the popular myth is that he lives at the North Pole. Few people actually know St. Nicholas was born, lived and died in Turkey during the fourth century. He was the bishop of Myra, now Demre, near Antalya.

A Byzantine basilica in Demre honors his memory, and the tale of his generosity is unforgotten on these shores. The story is of a bishop tip-toeing through the streets of old Myra to toss bags of gold through open windows or down chimneys.

He is said to have been the sole heir of a wealthy family and shared his money secretly with the less fortunate. Among numerous of them, one story told how he gave a nobleman three sacks of gold for his daughters' dowries because he was too poor. The first two bags, he tossed through an open window. But when he found the window tightly shut on his third visit, he went down the chimney instead, dropping the sack in a red sock that was drying on the mantelpiece.

Since then, it has become traditional to put oranges in Christmas stockings to symbolize the sacks of gold. Also, the three golden balls that pawn shops use as their symbol originated from this story.

After St. Nicholas died in 323, his priests buried him in an elaborate marble sarcophagus that they periodically filled with fragrant oil. The oil dripped through cavities in the sarcophagus, and the priests did a lucrative business selling vials of it to pilgrims who believed the oil had miraculous powers.

The St. Nicholas Church was built in his memory after his death. The church is one of the oldest in Turkey, dating from the fifth century.

Tales of St. Nicholas spread westward and in April 1087 merchants from Bari, Italy, ransacked the Saint's grave and took his bones to Italy believing they would bring them wealth. Based on that event, Bari and Antalya were declared sister cities several years ago. A few remains from his sarcophagus are on display in the Antalya museum.

In 1826 a Russian prince had the church restored by an architect. Instead of the cupola, a crosswise arch unrelated to Byzantine architecture was placed there and a belfry was added.

The sarcophagus found inside the western apse is believed to be that of St. Nicholas.

Every year on Dec. 6, the day St. Nicholas

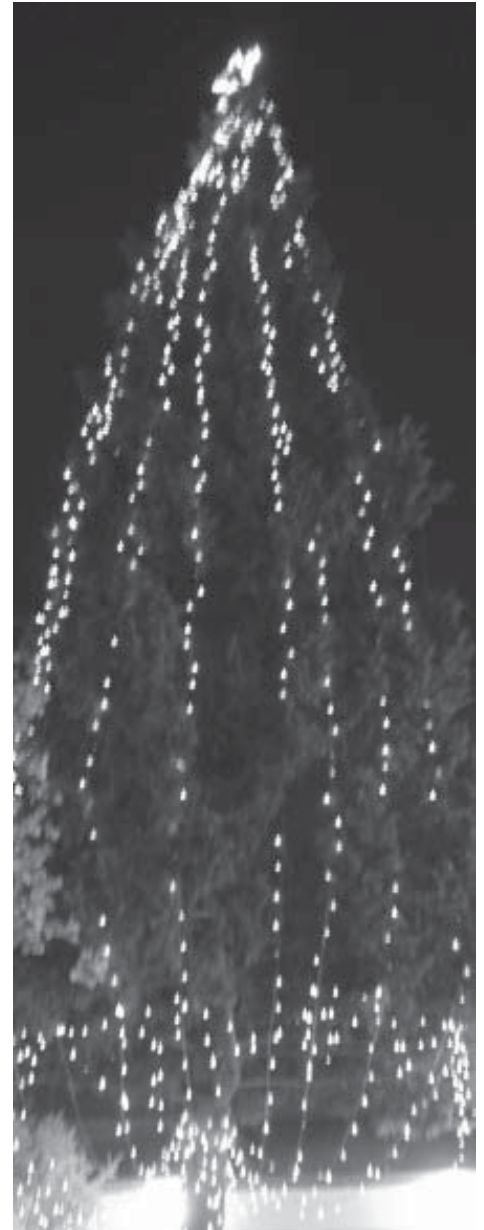


Photo by Senior Airman James Seymore III

Turkish people celebrate the arrival of the New Year with parties, lights, gifts and cards, much the same way Americans celebrate Christmas.

died, there is a service in St. Nicholas' Church in Demre. Dec. 6 is also the first day of a week-long festival held in Demre sponsored by the Santa Claus Foundation.

There's a bronze statue of St. Nicholas in Demre, erected in 1981, which looks very much like the typical Santa Claus with a long beard, a sack over his shoulder and a group of small children gathered around him.

Do you have a question about something Turkish? Ask Mehmet. To submit a question, call 6-6060 or e-mail mehmets.birbiri@incirlik.af.mil.

THE INCIRLIK GUIDE

Today

Top III meeting — Incirlik's Top III organization meets at 3 p.m. in the enlisted lounge at the club. New members are welcome. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Charles Collins at 6-9874.

Monday

Club now open Mondays — The club is now open Mondays to better serve the Incirlik community. Mondays feature is the taco and potato bar. There is also a new sandwich menu, deli sandwiches and salad bar available every day. For more information, call 6-6101.

Wednesday

Youth Uno tourney — The youth center sponsors the tourney from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. for preteens. The cost is \$3 for members, \$4 for nonmembers. Cost includes hotdogs, chips and beverages. For more information, call 6-6670.

Upcoming

DeCA scholarships for military children — The Defense Commissary Agency now has applications available at www.militaryscholar.org for the 2005 scholarship program. A \$1,500 scholarship will be awarded at each commissary location with eligible applicants. Applications are due by Feb. 16. Scholarships are open to unmarried children of retirees or active-duty, guard and reserve servicemembers. Applicants must be age 21 (23 if enrolled in school) or younger.

Youth dance — The youth center sponsors a preteen dance Dec. 23 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Entrance fee is \$2 for members and \$3 for non-members. Snacks will be served. For more information, call 6-6670.

Youth lip-sync contest — The youth center sponsors a preteen lip-sync contest Dec. 29 from 6 to 8 p.m. Preteens bring their own CDs and choose their song. Cost is \$4 for members, \$6 for nonmembers. First, second and third place prizes will be awarded. For more information, call 6-6670.

New Year's Eve celebration at club — The club sponsors a New Year's Eve celebration Dec. 31 at 7 p.m. Tickets are available at the club cashier's cage and cost \$10 for members and \$15 for nonmembers. Cost includes dinner, breakfast buffet and live entertainment by the Dina Preston band. For more information, call 6-6101.

New Year's Eve semi-formal event — The Incirlik Masons sponsors a semi-formal New Year's celebration at an off-base venue Dec. 31 from 8 p.m. to 3 a.m. Cost is \$15 per person and \$25 per couple. Dress is semi-formal. For location and more information, call Chelsea Timmons at 6-1256, David Mizelle at 6-6452, Darryl Ross at 6-6602, or Cedric Smith at 6-3252.

Ongoing

Rental demo clubs — The golf course offers demo clubs for rent. Rentals are \$25. For more information, call 6-8955.

Personal storage lockers available — Outdoor recreation offers storage lockers at a cost for the Incirlik community. Lockers offer additional space in a secure location with 24-hour access. For more information, call 6-6044.

Fund raising opportunity — Units or organizations interested in taking advantage of the opportunity to wrap shoppers' gifts for donations can sign up for available dates and times of their choice Tuesdays through Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The base exchange provides supplies including tape, gift wrap, scissors, ribbon and location (lobby of the main store). For more information or to schedule a time, call Ann Yi or Sandra Moriarity at 6-6937 or 6-6543.



Today

Christmas home decorating contest deadline — People wishing to enter the Christmas home decorating contest must sign up by 5 p.m. Judging takes place Saturday. This is a Project CHEER event. For more information, call Nerissa Atkisson at 6-1032.

Crossroads Café — Top III hosts food and fellowship at the Crossroads Café from 7 to 11 p.m. This event is open to ages 18 and older. For more information, call Senior Airman Tianna Milagro at 6-6441.

Saturday

Christmas dorm decorating contest deadline — People wishing to enter the Christmas dorm decorating contest must sign up by 5 p.m. Judging takes place Sunday. This is a Project CHEER event. For more information, call Nerissa Atkisson at 6-1032.

Crossroads Café — The Protestant Women of the Chapel hosts food and fellowship at the Crossroads Café from 6 to 10 p.m. This event is open to everyone. For more information, call Senior Airman Tianna Milagro at 6-6441.

Catholic Bible study — Catholic Bible study meets Saturdays at 8:30 a.m. in the chapel conference room. For more information, call Michael Luna at 6-9180.

Tuesday

Singles Bible study — A

Bible study for Single adults meets Tuesdays at 6:15 p.m. at the Crossroads Café. A free meal is provided during the study. For more information, call the chapel at 6-6441.

Upcoming

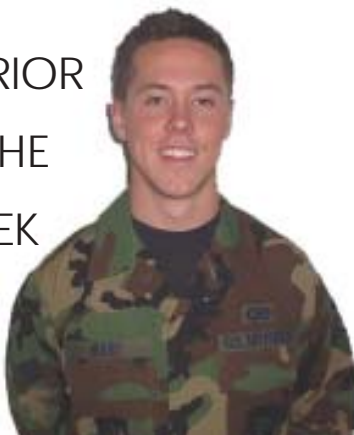
Project CHEER — Project CHEER, with the support of the Army and Air Force Exchange Service and U.S. Air Forces in Europe Services, offers free movies with one serving of popcorn and a soda for attendants of movies showing Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. Featured movies and show times to be announced. Although this opportunity targets unaccompanied Airmen, entrance will be on a first come, first served basis and other members of the community will not be turned away. For more information, call Project CHEER headquarters at 6-6966.

Ongoing

Dear Reader — For people who love to read, but can't find the time, an on-line book club is now available. To join Dear Reader.Com visit www.usafe.libraries.org.

Combat Education notice to all fiscal 2004 graduates — People who graduated from a regionally or nationally accredited postsecondary institution within the past year and were unable to participate in a graduation ceremony can contact the education center today. For more information, call Angela Williams at 6-9664.

WARRIOR OF THE WEEK



Senior Airman Kyle Ward,
Detachment 1, Ankara, communications and
computers NCO in charge

Time in service: Two years and 6 months

Hometown: Valentine, Neb.

Time on station: Three months

Hobbies: I enjoy golfing, snowboarding and watching Nebraska Husker's football.

Why did you join the Air Force?

The backbone of our country is defended by those who protect our borders, foreign or domestic. I wanted to be on that border.

What do you like most about Ankara? It's not just what I like about Ankara, but everywhere go — it's the culture, the people, the land. The differences that living in countries across the world are what open's my eyes.

How do you contribute to the Detachment 1 mission? I serve as the main point of contact

for all computer and network support to our GSU (geographically separated unit). This supports our mission of providing political-military liaison functions with the government of Turkey, communications and logistical support for U.S. combat operations in Turkey and base services support for the American community in Ankara.

What is your favorite quote or motto?

"It is courage, courage, courage that raises the blood of life to crimson splendor. Live bravely and present a brave front to adversity." — Quintus Horatius Flaccus. Words I live by; it is a challenge to take everything in front of you on with which lives inside us all.

What Air Force core value best describes you?

Excellence in all we do. This core value doesn't focus on the individual, but "we." The way we perform our duties in accomplishing the mission reflects on all those around us, producing a will to always do better.

Supervisor's quote:

"Without a question one of the best Airmen I've supervised or witnessed in my career; as an Airman, he serves in a challenging NCOIC position that requires high-caliber technical expertise, diplomacy and professionalism," said Capt. Lamont Morrow, 39th ABW Det. 1 communications and computers chief. "Airman Ward finds solutions to problems without complaint or delay; He truly has a bright career ahead of him."

\$50 OBO. Call Danielle at 6-5238, please leave a message if there is no answer.

Massachusetts Air National Guard positions available: People separating from the Air Force may qualify for positions in the Massachusetts Air National Guard and associated college benefits. For information regarding the Massachusetts ANG, call 1-800-247-9151. For college information regarding college benefits and colleges in the area visit www.goang.com and www.bostonsearch.com/colleges.htm, respectively.

Enrichment spaces available: The child development center preschool and toddler enrichment classes have limited seats available in each class. Classes are available for 2 and 3 year olds and 4 and 5 year olds. For more information, call 6-6553.

Instructors needed: Dog obedience, dance, self-defense and music instruments instructors. For more information, call youth programs at 6-3246 or 6- 6670.

YOUR TURN



To submit a question for "Your Turn," call 6-6060 or e-mail tip.sword@incirlik.af.mil

How do you plan to celebrate the holiday season?

"I just purchased a new house in the United States so I'm going to look at it."

— **Master Sgt. Henry McConnell**, 39th Communications Squadron



"My daughter is coming in from college, so I'll be spending time with the family."

— **Tiana Peyton-Harris**, Military family member



"I'm going to be at home in the states eating turkey."

— **Airman 1st Class Christopher Williams**, 39th Security Forces Squadron



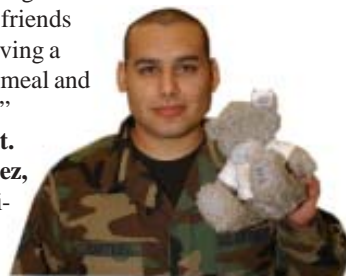
"I'll be hanging out with my friends and family."

— **Amber McCarty**, Military family member



"I'm spending the holidays with friends and family, having a home-cooked meal and opening gifts."

— **Staff Sgt. Eliseo Martinez**, 39th Communications Squadron



CLASSIFIEDS

Free to a good home: 3-month old kittens. They are litter-box trained and playful. Owner will pay 10 percent of all vet costs for first and second shots, and AVID (American Veterinary Identification Device) chip implant. For more information, call Adena at 6-9538.

Free to a good home: 10-month old Shepherd-mix dog. Good with children, very friendly. Comes with kennel. For more information, call Derek at 6-6737 during duty hours or at 6-2272 in the evening.

For sale: Dining room set, seats six, only one year old. \$375. Call 6-2438.

For sale: Computer desk in good condition,

Cookie Caper
Senior Airman Tonika Brown (right), 39th Mission Support Group commander's support staff journeyman, and Staff Sgt. Naomi Frese, 39th Comptroller Flight customer support technician, were among the volunteers who helped bag cookies Tuesday as part of the Project CHEER Cookie Caper. Thousands of cookies were placed in decorated bags and will be distributed to unaccompanied Airmen for the holidays. (Photo by Senior Airman James Seymore III)



HOLIDAY HOURS

The 39th Air Base Wing observes the upcoming winter holidays. The following facilities' operating hours vary from their normal hours or are closed during these days:

Club dining room Closed (Dec. 25)
..... Closed (Jan. 1)
Fitness center Closed (Dec. 25)
... 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. (Dec. 26 and Jan. 1)
Library 1 to 5 p.m. (Dec. 24)
..... Closed (Dec. 25)
..... 1 to 5 p.m. (Dec. 26)
..... 1 to 5 p.m. (Dec. 31)
..... Closed (Jan. 1)
Skills development center .. Closed (Dec. 24)
..... Closed (Dec. 25, 31 and Jan. 1)
Outdoor recreation Closed (Dec. 25)
..... Closed (Jan. 1)
Community Center Closed (Dec. 25)
Child development center .. Closed (Dec. 25)
Youth center Open recreation (Dec. 24)
..... Closed (Dec. 25)
..... Open recreation (Dec. 31)

Bowling center Closed (Jan. 1)
Golf course Closed (Jan. 1)
Auto skills center Closed (Dec. 25)
..... Closed (Jan. 1)
Base exchange .. 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. (Dec. 18)
..... 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Dec. 24)
..... 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Dec. 25)
..... 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Dec. 31)
..... Closed (Jan. 1)
Shoppette 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. (Jan. 1)
Bookmark Closed (Jan. 1)
Commissary 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Dec. 20)
..... Closed (Dec. 25)
..... 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Dec. 27)
..... 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Dec. 31)
..... Closed (Jan. 1)
BXtra Closed (Jan. 1)
Vet Clinic Closed (Dec. 25 and Jan. 1)
Finance cashier's cage Closed (Dec. 23)
..... Closed (Dec. 24, 30 and Jan. 1)
..... Closed (Dec. 30)
..... Closed (Jan. 1)
Education center Closes at noon (today)
..... Closed (Dec. 24, 25, 31 and Jan. 1)



AT THE MOVIES

At the Oasis

Today

Surviving Christmas (PG-13) (1st Run) – Starring Ben Affleck and James Gandolfini. Facing another Christmas alone, Drew decides to go back to his idyllic childhood home to spend the holidays with family. There is, however, one problem: the people living there now are not Drew's family. Showing at 7 p.m. (92 minutes)



Ladder 49 (PG-13) – Starring Joaquin Phoenix and John Travolta. Firefighter Jack Morrison has led an extraordinary career as a first responder. But the sacrifices he's made have taken their toll on Jack's relationship with his wife, kids and friends. Those decisions finally come back to haunt young Jack

when he's trapped in a serious blaze. Showing at 9 p.m. (115 minutes)

Saturday

Mr. 3000 (PG-13) – Starring Bernie Mac and Angela Bassett. Stan Ross retired after making what he thought was his 3,000th base hit, he shocked his teammates by quitting in the middle of the game, certain that his Hall of Fame position was in the bag. Complications arise when they discover that three of his hits during his ten-year career had been disqualified. Showing at 5 p.m. (103 minutes)



Friday Night Lights (PG-13) (1st Run) – Starring Billy Bob Thornton and Derek Luke. Based on the book about high school football by H.G. Bissinger, Friday Night Lights chronicles the entire 1988 season of the Permian High Panthers of Odessa, Texas, with football players, coaches, mothers, fathers, boosters, fans and families struggling with ongoing personal conflicts while the team fights for a state championship. Showing at 7 p.m. (110 minutes)

Sunday

Friday Night Lights (PG-13) (1st Run) –

Starring Billy Bob Thornton and Derek Luke. Showing at 7 p.m. (110 minutes)

Thursday

Raise Your Voice (PG-13) (1st Run) – Starring Hillary Duff and Oliver James. A small-town girl gets the summer of her dreams when she gets to leave home for the summer and attend a performing-arts school in Los Angeles. Lacking in formal training, still hurting from the sudden death of her brother in a car accident, the girl is forced to move on, to heal emotionally and to find herself in the big city. Showing at 5 p.m. (103 minutes)

At the M1

Grudge (R) — noon, 2:15 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m., 9:15 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. (100 minutes)

Princess Diaries-2 (G) — 11:30 a.m., 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m., 9:30 p.m. and 11:45 p.m. (115 minutes)

Manchurian Candidate (R) — 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 4 p.m., 6:45 p.m., 9:30 p.m. and 11:45 p.m. (120 minutes)

Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason (R) — 11:30 a.m., 1:45 p.m., 4 p.m., 6:45 p.m., 9:30 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. (108 minutes)

Alexander (R) — 11 a.m., 2:30 p.m., 4:15 p.m., 6 p.m., 9:30 p.m., 11 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. (173 minutes)

For more information and updates, call the movie recording at 6-6986 or the theater office at 6-9140. The provision of movie information does not constitute an endorsement by the 39th Air Base Wing, U.S. government, Department of Defense or Department of the U.S. Air Force. For more information, call the theater at 6-6986.